



The LaPorte County 4-H Dairy Committee would like to make you aware of the following very important dates and information regarding the 4-H Dairy project for 2026.

May 15th | ALL livestock must be entered and identified in 4HOnline
May 15th | DNA hair sample due for State Fair (turn in at the Extension Office)
June 12th | All Livestock entered in Fair Entry (these are the specific animals you will be bringing to fair)
June 12th | Complete Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care or YQCA Online
June 12th | Pen reservations due through Fair Entry
July 1st | State Fair Entry Deadline
July 11th to 18th | LAPORTE COUNTY FAIR
July 13th | Dairy Cattle Check-In | 8 – 11 AM | Cattle Barn
July 16th | Dairy Cattle Show | 8 AM | Livestock Show Arena
July 16th | Release of dairy animals | After Concert Traffic until 11 PM
July 17th | ALL DAY 4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION
August 7th to 23rd | Indiana State Fair (closed Mondays)

Important Project Information:

- Any youth that plans on exhibiting livestock this year at the county and/or State Fair will need to enroll their animals in the 4HOnline system by **May 15th**. It is the responsibility of the 4-H member and or family to enroll their animals online.
- Grade animals are not required to be identified through a Breed Association. All grade animals MUST have purebred sires, and can be grades but not crossbreeds.
- Leased Animals must have a lease agreement form on file with the Extension Office NO later than May 15th. Forms can be found at the Extension Office or website. Refer to State Fair rules.
- **It is a requirement that all Dairy Animals have a 840-RFID tag AND A HAIR SAMPLE. This is a requirement to go to State Fair.** If you are only exhibiting at the county level, no DNA is required.
- **Pen Reservations** | Dairy pen reservations will be done through FairEntry. Fees of \$4/head must be turned into Allison Younggreen at one of the workshops. Please make checks payable to LaPorte County 4-H Dairy.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Or YQCA Requirements

Each 4-H member who is participating in Beef or Dairy Feeder, Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Goat, Swine, and Poultry projects will need to complete a quality assurance program by June 12th.

1. The Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program. These trainings will all be held in-person for the upcoming year and registration is open in 4HOnline, under Events, look for LaPorte County – Indiana 4-H Livestock Quality Care.
2. YQCA certification (online only) will be accepted. Please visit yqcaprogram.org to take the online training. Once completed it is your responsibility to send a copy of your certificate to the Extension Office, so they have record of completion. Those certificates can be sent directly to mart2843@purdue.edu

Fair Entry

FairEntry is the second step in being able to exhibit animals at the LaPorte County Fair. All 4-H members will need to enter the animals that they intend to bring to the fair exhibition in Fair Entry by June 12, 2026.

You will use the same email and password that is used with 4HOnline when visiting <https://fairentry.com>

Dairy Classes

More than one animal per class may be signed up. However only one animal per class may be shown by a 4-H member. The other animal or animals may be shown as an open class entry. The La Porte County 4-H show will run as a breed show with no distinction between Registered and Grade cattle.

1. Spring Calf thru Fall Yearling Classes will compete for Junior Champion. Junior 2 Year Old thru Dry Cow will compete for Senior Champion award in each breed.
2. Once an animal has reached the age of Jr. 3 year old, the member who initially shows the animal as a Jr. 3 year old or older is the only member who may show the animal thereafter.
3. **Every** animal should have a descriptive card including the name, age (date of birth), sire, dam (name or tag#), and name of exhibitor on display.

Indiana State Fair Entry

A member does not need to own an animal to exhibit at State Fair. Indiana State Fair has a lease program available for those members who do not own their animals. You will find the rules for leasing animals for exhibit at the State Fair at <https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/livestock/4-h-competitions-entry-information>.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. If you plan to exhibit at the State Fair you need to enter online at

<https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/competitions--contests>.

Please do not hesitate to call the Extension office 219-324-9407 or 4-H Dairy Project Superintendent Don Livinghouse 574-298-1072 with questions.

Sincerely,

The Dairy Committee